

Annapolis Heritage Commission

September 4, 2013

The Annapolis Heritage Commission (AHC) of the City of Annapolis held its September 4, 2013 meeting at 145 Gorman Street Conference Room 3. **Chairman** Mack called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

Commissioners Present: Chairman Mack, Haight, Worden, McWilliams, Clark, Hayes-Williams, Engelke,

Cropper, Ramirez, Holland

Commissioners Absent: Bowen

Staff: Craig-Board Liaison

Guest: Kate Marks, National Park Service (NPS)

The AHC moved approval of the agenda as amended to hear New Business Item 2 first.

2. Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Wayside Sign Content

Ms. Kate Marks, NPS Chesapeake Bay Office, briefly described the Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail that is a 560-mile trail with a land and water route. She explained that the NPS is partnering with the Maryland Office of Tourism who received a grant to install 130 signs throughout Maryland. There will also be some signs installed in DC and Virginia so there will be approximately 150 interpretive signs throughout the region. The purpose for this request is that the partnership is hoping to install an interpretative sign at the Annapolis Visitor Center in order to recognize Annapolis. She described the proposed sign as a two leg, waist high, 2' x 3' panel, 4' in height sign that commemorates the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812 to be installed in the rear parking lot behind the Visitor Center. The specific location was chosen because it is already disturbed land and it is not located near any historic structures. Furthermore, the location is ADA accessible; not blocking the main flow of traffic; and there is no easement on the property so MHT has given approval. The signage will be bolted to two concrete footings that can be cut for easy removal. The signs are fabricated by iZone Imaging, a Texas fabrication company and has a life span of 10-15 years. She provided a mock up of the content to be included on the signage and wording will be kept to 150-200 in order to keep the viewer's attention. The signage will include a website for additional information. Ms. Craig noted that interpretative signs require administrative approval from staff but it is important to get feedback from the AHC specifically on the content/graphics. She also noted that there is a 10year life and maintenance responsibility that needs to be addressed. Ms. Marks noted that there is a MOU among the partners to address the issues noted by Ms. Craig specifically that there are two panels printed for easy replacement in the event of damage. However, in this instance, it could be a three party agreement because the Visitor Center has agreed to store the signs as well as maintain it.

Items that Ms. Marks agreed to provide to the AHC.

- 1. Change it to boat launch sites instead of boat ramps and determine if they are public or private (Worden)
- 2. Determine if iZone signs are graffiti proof or provide specification (Ramirez)
- 3. Provide the AHC with the history of the African American panels for review (Hayes-Williams)
- 4. Provide a standard MOA, copy of a three part agreement (Craig)
- 5. Review the shorelines to determine what can be done with it
- 6. Assemble all of the Jonas Green information for review
- 7. Send information on the location once it is secured

Ms. Engelke moved to accept the signage content as proposed by NPS for the proposed sign to be installed at the Annapolis Visitor Center parking lot. Mr. Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 10-0.

A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Worden moved to defer the voting on the April 4 and June 5, 2013 meeting minutes to the November 6, 2013 meeting. Ms. Engelke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 10-0.

B. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution R-3-13 Advocating for the City of Annapolis to be names the home for the National Continental Congress Center (NCCC)

Ms. Craig explained that the Council referred Resolution R-3-13 to the AHC for review and comment.

Chairman Mack opened discussion explaining that he had a telephone conversation with Mr. Croati who was hoping to persuade the AHC to change its position on the Resolution R-3-13. **Chairman** Mack expressed to Mr. Croati that the AHC's position has not changed. He noted that Mr. Croati wrote a letter to Ms. Bowen regarding the issue.

Ms. McWilliams noted that at the June 5, 2013 meeting she was asked to discuss R-3-13 with Dr. Papenruse. She provided a summary of the comments/concerns on R-3-13 and NCCC from Annapolis historians, archivists and museum professionals. Ms. McWilliams expressed concern with the City endorsing the NCCC activities as a City activity. A significant discussion regarding the AHC's concerns ensued.

Following the discussion, Mr. Holland moved to deny Resolution R-3-13 as submitted. Ms. Hayes-Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed in a vote of 9-1 (Engelke dissents)

Mr. Holland moved to submit the comments prepared by Ms. McWilliams as modified with the legislation denial. Mr. Worden seconded the motion. The motion passed in a vote of 9-1 (Engelke dissents)

<u>Purchase and Reinstallation of Former Mayor John Read MacGruder's portrait in City Hall</u>. Ms. Craig noted that Ms. Cindy McBride asked for a recommendation on how to handle the City owned portrait of John Read MacGruder. It was noted that it would costs \$1,500 to restore the portrait.

Ms. Engelke moved to fund \$750.00 using FY14 budget funds and \$750 using FY15 budget funds to restore the Former Annapolis Mayor John Read MacGruder's portrait. Mr. Haight seconded the motion. The motion passed in a vote of 9-1 (Ramirez dissents)

C. STAFF REPORTS

1. <u>Living Landmarks Awards – September 30, 2013</u>

Ms. Craig reported that the Living Landmarks Award ceremony is scheduled for September 30, 2013. She noted that all the honorees have been confirmed and former Alderman Israel may or may not be in attendance but an alternate will be selected to attend if he is unable. The event is scheduled at the Calvert House from 4:30pm-6:30pm and is handicap accessible. Ms. Wardlaw will be doing the video taping.

2. <u>Hazard Mitigation Planning</u>

She agreed to discuss this agenda item at a later date.

3. Walk Annapolis: West Annapolis Scavenger Hunt for History

There is an opportunity to showcase the Walk Annapolis walk on a map that will be accessible both through mobile and email that includes a scavenger hunt for history. She encouraged members to use the link to review. Ms. Wampler is also discussing the Lincoln's Walk with Mr. Toews to include the Battle of Gettysburg information. She suggested that AHC consider this as a virtual visitor experience.

4. Emancipation Commission

Ms. Hayes Williams announced that the Emancipation Commission breakfast is scheduled for November 1, 2013 at 8:30am at the Westin and the speaker is Lt. Governor Anthony Brown with the theme being community anchored. She noted that any remaining tickets will be shared with AHC.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday**, **November 6**, **2013 at 5:00pm** at 145 Gorman Street, Conference Room 3. With there being no further business, Mr. Haight moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. Mr. Worden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 10-0.

Tami Hook, Recorder